

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00483 241117Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 W
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P 241031Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 630

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STADIS//////////

FOR AF/C GRIBBIN ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PPDC, GB
SUBJ: CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

1. BELIEVE IT MAY BE TIME ANTICIPATE INEVITABLE AND SEE
IF POSSIBLE GET MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE FROM PRESIDENT
CARTER TO PRESIDENT AND MRS. BONGO. IT WOULD NOT BE SENT
OF COURSE UNTIL AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF SOME SORT IS
MADE HERE. HERE IS A DRAFT YOU MIGHT PLAY AROUND WITH.
QUOTE: DEAR PRESIDENT AND MRS. BONGO:

I WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED AT THE TRAGIC LOSS OF THE
HELICOPTER CARRYING MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY AND OTHER
GABONESE AND FRENCH CITIZENS. THE UNITED STATES MILITARY
KNEW AND RESPECTED LIEUTENANT COLONEL DJOUE DABANY AS
A PROFESSIONAL MILITARY MAN. THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE
USS INCHON AND USS SPRUANCE WERE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED
BY HIS SUPPORT DURING THEIR RECENT VISIT TO LIBREVILLE.
YOU AND THE GABONESE ARMED FORCES HAVE SUFFERED A GREAT
LOSS. PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SYMPATHY AND EXPRESS OUR
CONDOLENCES TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL THE FAMILIES INVOLVED.
SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER END QUOTE.

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2. WE STILL ARE NOT EXACTLY SURE WHO ALL WAS IN THE
HELICOPTER. THE FEB. 24 NEWSPAPER REPORTS 7 MEMBERS
GABONESE MILITARY PARACHUTE TEAM AND 3 FRENCH CREWMAN.
YATES

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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